



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Thomas M. RENT

Application No. 10/806,352

Filed: March 23, 2004

For: **Apparatus For Electronic Data Storage**

Group Art: 2652

Examiner: *To be Assigned*

Atty Dkt. 02708.0033.CNUS01

Confirmation No. 3993

Information Disclosure Statement

Mail Stop Missing Parts

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO/SB/08a are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required, or
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, or action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and
 - ☐ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), or
 - ☐ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), or
 - ☐ c. Attached is our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$____.00 in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee. Attached is our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i), and
- ☐ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), or
- ☐ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ 4. Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.
- ☐ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- ☐ 7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. _____, filed _____ and _____, filed _____, which are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of these U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to those applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The

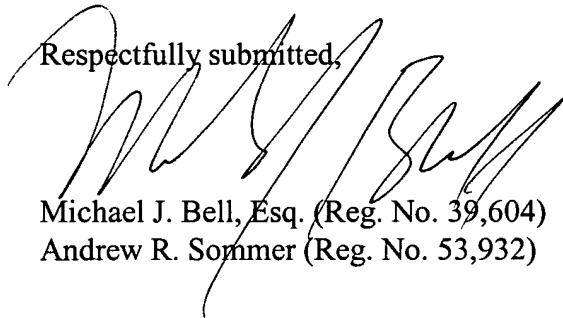
Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

- ☒ 8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. 09/848,716, filed April 13, 2000, entitled "Apparatus For Electronic Data Storage" which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing docket number 02708.0033.CNUS01.

Respectfully submitted,



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Andrew R. Sommer (Reg. No. 53,932)

Date: August 23, 2004

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/806,352
Filing Date	March 24, 2004
First Named Inventor	Thomas M. RENT
Art Unit	2652
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	02708.0033.CNUS01

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	us-4,870,643	09-26-1989	Bultman et al.	
	2	us-5,214,567	05-25-1993	Feightner et al.	
	3	us-5,264,975	11-23-1993	Bajorek et al.	
	4	us-5,556,290	09-17-1996	Northey et al.	
	5	us-5,600,783	02-04-1997	Kakuta et al.	
	6	us-5,661,636	08-26-1997	Onoda et al.	
	7	us-5,822,184	10-13-1998	Rabinovitz	
	8	us-5,844,910	12-01-1998	Nijima et al.	
	9	us-5,864,661	01-26-1999	Ohara	
	10	us-5,931,697	08-03-1999	Jeong	
	11	us-5,974,490	10-26-1999	Fujimura et al.	
	12	us-6,011,741	06-04-2000	Wallace et al.	
	13	us-6,035,429	03-07-2000	Shafe'	
	14	us-6,059,186	05-09-2000	Iijima et al.	
	15	us-6,073,188	06-06-2000	Fleming	
	16	us-6,084,773	07-04-2000	Nelson et al.	
	17	us-6,137,678	10-24-2000	Gebara et al.	
	18	us-6,199,137	03-06-2001	Aguilar et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	19	us-6,347,039	02-12-2002	Lee	
	20	us-6,351,374	02-26-2002	Sherry	
	21	us-6,434,612	08-13-2002	Hughes et al.	
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